

Abstract of the Disclosure

A printing method includes the steps of transporting a recording medium and an intermediate transfer medium for holding an image temporarily to an image forming position; selectively forming an image on the recording medium and the intermediate transfer medium at the image forming position; transporting the recording medium to an image transfer position; and transferring the image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to the recording medium at the image transfer position. When forming the image on the recording medium at the image forming position, it is prohibited to form the image on the intermediate transfer medium.